

## IN THE CLAIMS

1 (original): Use of compounds having general formula (I):

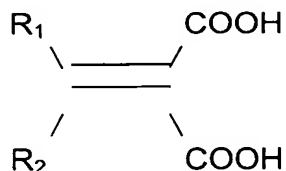


(I)

wherein:

- A represents the bibasic ion of an organic acid which can have the meanings (A<sub>1</sub>)-(A<sub>8</sub>);
- Cu represents the copper 2+ ion;
- (A<sub>1</sub>)-(A<sub>8</sub>) respectively represent the following carboxylic acids:

(A<sub>1</sub>):

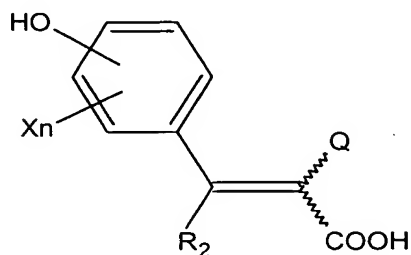


wherein:

- R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, the same or different, represent a hydrogen atom; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkenyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl group, optionally substituted; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkoxy group,

linear or branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylthio or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkylthio group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkoxyl group, optionally substituted; an aryl group optionally substituted or a heteroaryl group optionally substituted; a heterocyclic group optionally substituted;

(A<sub>2</sub>):



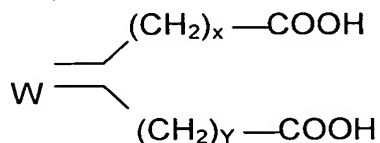
wherein:

- R<sub>2</sub> has the meanings defined above;
- Q represents a hydrogen atom; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a cyano group; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcarbonyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkylcarbonyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl, linear or branched, optionally substituted; an aminocarbonyl group; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylaminocarbonyl group; a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> dialkylaminocarbonyl group;
- X represents a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom; a hydroxyl group; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl group,

linear or branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkoxyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a cyano group; a nitro group; an amine group; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylamine group; a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> dialkylamine group; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> linear or branched thioalkyl group, possibly substituted; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> linear or branched halothioalkyl group, possibly substituted; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> linear or branched alkylsulfinyl group, possibly substituted; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> linear or branched alkylsulfonyl group, possibly substituted;

- n is a number ranging from 1 to 4;

(A<sub>3</sub>):

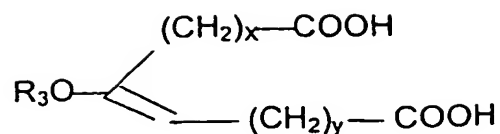


wherein:

- W represents an oxygen atom; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylimine group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; an arylimine group optionally substituted; a hetero-aryl imine group optionally substituted; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxyimine group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; an aryloxyimine group optionally substituted;

- x and y, the same or different, are a number ranging from 0 to 4;

(A<sub>4</sub>):

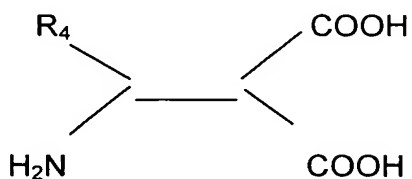


wherein:

-  $\text{R}_3$  represents a  $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_6$  alkyl or  $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_6$  haloalkyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a  $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_6$  cycloalkyl group, optionally substituted; an aryl group, optionally substituted; a heteroaryl group, optionally substituted;

-  $x$  and  $y$ , the same or different, are a number ranging from 0 to 4;

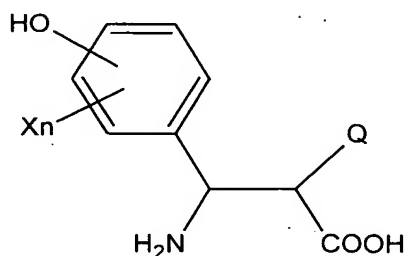
( $\text{A}_5$ ):



wherein:

-  $\text{R}_4$  represents a  $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_6$  alkyl or  $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_6$  haloalkyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a  $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_6$  cycloalkyl group, optionally substituted; an aryl group, optionally substituted; a heteroaryl group, optionally substituted;

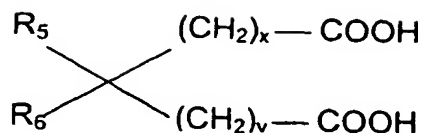
( $\text{A}_6$ ):



wherein:

- Q, X and n have the same meanings defined above;

(A<sub>7</sub>):



wherein:

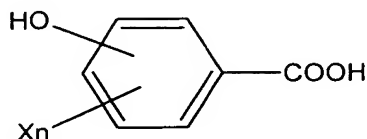
- R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub>, the same or different, represent a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkenyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkynyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl group, optionally substituted; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkoxyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylthio or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> haloalkylthio group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkoxyl group, optionally substituted; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylamine group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> dialkylamine group, linear or

branched, optionally substituted; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcarbonylamine group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; an arylcarbonylamine group, optionally substituted; an aryl group, optionally substituted; a hetero-aryl group, optionally substituted; a heterocyclic group, optionally substituted;

- R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> can jointly form a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycle;

- x and y, the same or different, are a number ranging from 0 to 4 excluding cases wherein x and y are a number ranging from 0 to 2 and R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are both a hydrogen atom;

(A<sub>8</sub>):



wherein

X and n have the same meanings described above excluding salicylic acid;

alone or in a mixture, for the control of bacterial and fungal phytopathogens on vegetables or parts thereof.

2 (original): The use according to claim 1, characterized in that the compounds having general formula (I) are isomeric mixtures in any proportion or single isomers.

3 (original): The use according to claim 1, characterized

in that the compounds having general formula (I) are present in hydrated form by the coordination of any number of water molecules.

4 (original) The use according to claim 1, characterized in that the compounds having general formula (I) coordinate further metal cations inside their structure.

5 (original): The use according to claim 1, characterized in that the compounds having general formula (I) are in the form of mixed salts.

6 (original): The use according to claim 1, characterized in that the compounds having general formula (I) are selected from:

- copper (II) salt of 4-chlorobenzylidenemalonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3,4-dimethoxybenzylidene malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-fluorobenzylidenemalonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-trifluoromethylbenzylidene malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-dimethylaminobenzylidene malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2,4-dichlorobenzylidene malonic acid;

- copper (II) salt of 4-bromobenzylidene malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene malonic acid monomethyl ester;
- copper (II) salt of 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene malonic acid monoethyl ester;
- copper (II) salt of 2-cyano-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)propenoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2-acetyl-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)propenoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2-aminocarbonyl-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)propenoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-methoxycarbonyl-2-butenic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-hydroxy-3-methoxycinnamic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2-hydroxycinnamic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-hydroxycinnamic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-hydroxycinnamic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-ketoglutaric acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-methoxy-2-pentendioic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-carboxy-3-(4-chlorophenyl)propanoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-carboxy-3-(2-hydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-carboxy-3-(4-



- trifluoromethylphenyl)propanoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-carboxy-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)propanoic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-carboxy-3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)propanoic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of 3-amino-3-(2-hydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of 3-amino-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)propanoic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-cyano-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-cyano-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)propanoic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of 2-methoxysuccinic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of 2-ethoxysuccinic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of 3-(2-furyl)-2-carboxypropenoic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of 3-(2-thiazolyl)-2-carboxypropenoic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of 3-benzylidene-2-carboxypropenoic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of 1,1-cyclopropane dicarboxylic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of diallylmalonic acid;
  - copper (II) salt of ethylphenyl malonic acid;

- copper (II) salt of bis(2-cyanoethyl)malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of N-morpholinemalonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of N-benzyloxyiminomalonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-hydroxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 5-chloro-2-hydroxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 5-bromo-2-hydroxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2-hydroxy-5-methoxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2-hydroxy-3-methylbenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3,5-dimethoxy-4-hydroxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3,5-dichloro-4-hydroxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3,5-dibromo-4-hydroxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3,5-dimethyl-4-hydroxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-chloro-4-hydroxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2,3-dihydroxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2,6-dihydroxybenzoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3,4-dihydroxybenzoic acid.

7. Compounds having general formula (I'):

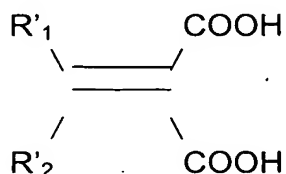


(I')

wherein:

- A' represents the bibasic ion of an organic acid which can have the meanings (A'<sub>1</sub>)-(A'<sub>7</sub>);
- Cu represents the copper 2+ ion;
- (A'<sub>1</sub>)-(A'<sub>7</sub>) respectively represent the following carboxylic acids:

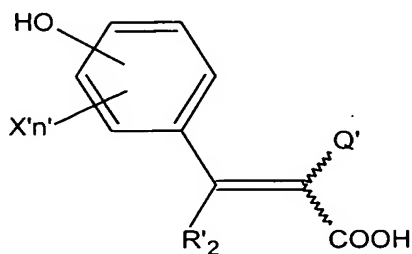
- (A'<sub>1</sub>):



wherein:

- R'<sub>1</sub> represents an aryl group optionally substituted;
- R'<sub>2</sub> represents a hydrogen atom;

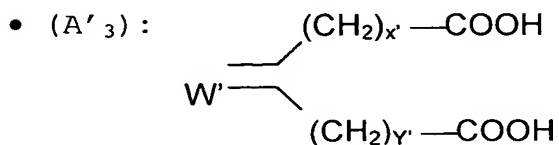
- (A'<sub>2</sub>):



wherein:

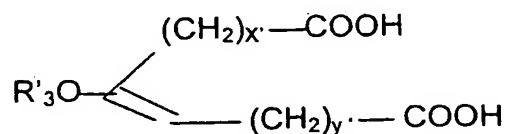
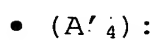
- X' represents a hydrogen or halogen atom; a hydroxyl group; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy group, linear or branched, optionally substituted;
- n' can have the value of 1 or 2;

- R'<sub>2</sub> represents a hydrogen atom;
- Q' represents a hydrogen atom; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; an acetyl group; a cyano group;



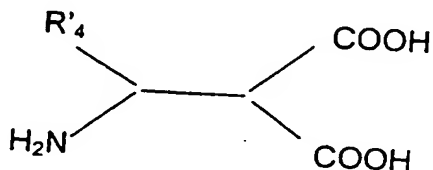
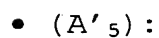
wherein:

- W' represents an oxygen atom;
- x' and y' both have the value of 1;



wherein:

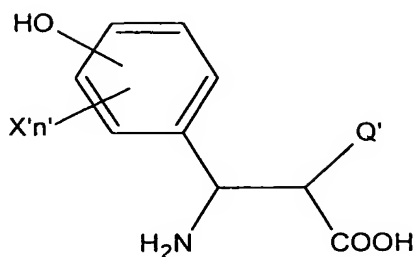
- R'<sub>3</sub> represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl group, linear or branched;
- x' is equal to 1 and y' is equal to 0;



wherein:

- R'<sub>4</sub> represents an aryl group, optionally substituted;

• (A'<sub>6</sub>):



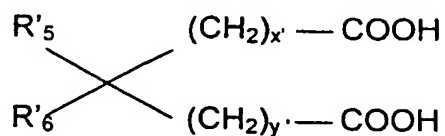
wherein:

- X' represents a hydrogen or halogen atom; a hydroxyl group; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted;

- n' can have the value of 1 or 2;

- Q' represents a hydrogen atom; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl group, linear or branched, optionally substituted; an acetyl group; a cyano group;

• (A'<sub>7</sub>):



wherein:

- R'<sub>5</sub> represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxyl group, linear or branched;

- R'<sub>6</sub> represents a hydrogen atom;

- x' is equal to 0 and y' is equal to 1.

8 (original): The compounds according to claim 7,

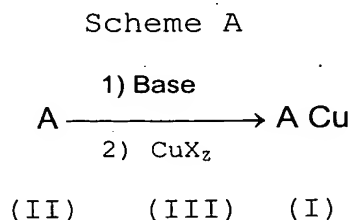
characterized in that they are selected from:

- copper (II) salt of 4-chlorobenzylidenemalonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3,4-dimethoxybenzylidene malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-fluorobenzylidene malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-trifluoromethylbenzylidene malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-dimethylaminobenzylidene malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2,4-dichlorobenzylidene malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-bromobenzylidene malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene malonic acid monomethyl ester;
- copper (II) salt of 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene malonic acid monoethyl ester;
- copper (II) salt of 2-cyano-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)propenoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2-acetyl-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)propenoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2-aminocarbonyl-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)propenoic acid;

- copper (II) salt of 3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-methoxycarbonyl-2-butenic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-hydroxy-3-methoxycinnamic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2-hydroxycinnamic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-hydroxycinnamic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 4-hydroxycinnamic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-ketoglutaric acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-methoxy-2-pentendioic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-carboxy-3-(4-chlorophenyl)propanoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-carboxy-3-(2-hydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-carboxy-3-(4-trifluoromethyl phenyl)propanoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-carboxy-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)propanoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-carboxy-3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)propanoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-3-(2-hydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)propanoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-cyano-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid;

- copper (II) salt of 3-amino-2-cyano-3-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxy phenyl)propanoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2-methoxysuccinic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 2-ethoxysuccinic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-(2-furyl)-2-carboxypropenoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-(2-thiazolyl)-2-carboxypropenoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of 3-benzylidene-2-carboxypropenoic acid;
- copper (II) salt of diallylmalonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of ethylphenyn malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of bis(2-cyanoethyl)malonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of N-morpholinemalonic acid;
- copper (II) salt of N-benzyloxyimino malonic acid.

9 (currently amended): The process for the preparation of compounds having general formula (I) according to ~~any of the~~ claim[[s]] 1[[ -8]], characterized in that it comprises a reaction according to the reaction scheme A:





wherein A has the same meanings defined above and z has the value of 1 or 2.

10 (currently amended): Fungicidal compositions containing, as active principle, one or more compounds having general formula (I) according to ~~one of the~~ claim[[s]] 1[[-8]].

11 (original) The compositions according to claim 10, comprising other active principles compatible with the compounds having general formula (I), such as other fungicides, phyto-regulators, antibiotics, herbicides, insecticides, fertilizers.

12 (currently amended): The compositions according to claim 10 [[or 11]], characterized in that the concentration of the active principles varies from 0.1% to 98%, preferably from 0.5% to 90%.

13 currently amended): Use of the fungicidal compositions according to ~~any of the~~ claim[[s]] 10[[-12]] for the control of phytopathogen fungi.

14 (currently amended): The use according to ~~any of the~~ claim[[s]] 1[[-]] ~~6 or 13~~, characterized in that the phytopathogens are: *Plasmopara viticola* on vines; *Phytophthora* spp. on vegetables; *Pyricularia oryzae* on rice; *Venturia inaequalis* on apples; *Peronospora tabacina* on tobacco; *Pseudoperonospora cubensis*. on

cucurbitaceous products; *Bremia* on salads, spinach;  
*Alternaria spp.* on tomatoes, potatoes.

15 (currently amended): A method for the control of  
phytopathogen fungi in agricultural crops by the  
application of the compounds having general formula (I)  
according to one of the claims 1-8 or by the application of  
a fungicidal composition according to ~~one of the~~ claim[[s]]  
10[[-12]]].

16 (original): The method according to claim 15,  
characterized in that the quantity of compound to be  
applied varies from 10 g to 5 kg per hectare.

17 (original): The method according to claim 15,  
characterized in that the application takes place on all  
parts of the plant, for example on the leaves, stems,  
branches and roots, or on the seeds themselves before being  
planted, or on the ground in which the plant grows.

18 (original): Use of the compounds having general formula  
(I) according to ~~one of the~~ claim[[s]] 1[[-8]] ~~or of a~~  
~~fungicidal composition according to one of the claims 10-12~~  
for the control of fungal phytopathogens on non-living  
substrates, such as plastics, metals, textile fibers,  
glass, wood, paper, foams, bricks.

19 (new): Use of a fungicidal composition according to

claim 10 for the control of fungal phytopathogens on non-living substrates, such as plastics, metals, textile fibers, glass, wood, paper, foams, bricks.